

# INFORMATION LETTER

## NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Not for  
Publication

For Members  
Only

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### Copies of Paper on Soil Fertility Are Available

Copies of the paper, "Improving and Maintaining Soil Fertility for Canning Crops," delivered by Dr. Jackson B. Hester, Soil Technologist, Campbell Soup Co., at the Raw Products Conferences at the 40th Annual Convention at Atlantic City, can be obtained from the Association's Raw Products Bureau, 1739 H Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Copies of the paper already have been mailed to those members who were registered at the Raw Products Conferences. Dr. Hester is one of the leading authorities on soil fertility on fertilizer problems in the production of canning crops.

A Fisheries Research Institute has been established at the University of Washington at Seattle (See story on page 294).

April, 1947, sales of retail grocery and grocery-fresh-meat stores were estimated at \$1,786,000,000 by the Office of Business Economics of the Department of Commerce. This represents an increase of 27 percent over April, 1946, and a decrease of 1 percent from March, 1947. For further details, see story on page 289.

Plans have been completed for conducting Howard mold count schools at three locations this year. The first, sponsored by the Ozark Canners Association, will be held at Fayetteville, Ark., from June 30 to July 3. (This school will be preceded by a week of instruction in the examination of canned spinach.) The Indiana Canners Association will sponsor the second school from July 9 to 18 at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind. A third mold count school, sponsored by the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., will be held from July 3 to August 1 at the Geneva Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y. See story on page 294.

## 1947 Fruit Crop to Be Smaller

The Nation has prospects for a total deciduous fruit production almost as large as the 1946 record, despite severe freeze damage to fruits in the Appalachian area, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced this week in its June crop production report. Peach production is expected to reach a new high and that for pears and plums near records. Although cherries have suffered serious rain damage in the Northwest, production is estimated above average. Prunes show prospects for a crop slightly above average but below last year. Apricots will be less than last year and less than average. Early production prospects for commercial apples appear to be moderately below average, although short crops are reported in the important Appalachian area, USDA said.

Frosts and freezing temperatures May 8 to 11 damaged fruits and tender crops, mainly in West Virginia and mid-Atlantic States. The backwardness of the season which held back fruits and spring crops prevented more serious injury. A second major freeze on May 28-30 covered an area from Montana eastward to Michigan and south to Kansas. Temperatures in this area fell to all-time lows for the period. (See *1947 Fruit Crop*, continued on page 291)

### Canning Crops Not Included in Marketing Agreements Bill

The House Committee on Agriculture voted on June 12 to report the Hope bill (H.R. 452) to amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act of 1937 and to delete Section 4 of the bill which would have extended the coverage of the Act to all agricultural commodities, including canning crops. The bill as originally introduced provided in Section 4 that all agricultural commodities might be made subject to orders issued by the Secretary of Agriculture which would control production and marketing activities of fruit and vegetable canners. The action of the House Committee strikes this section from the bill, thus recommending to the House that no additional com- (See *Marketing Agreements Bill*, page 289)

### Sugar Rationing for Household Consumers Discontinued

Discontinuance of sugar rationing to household consumers and institutional users (hotels, restaurants, etc.) effective 12:01 a. m., June 12, 1947, was announced by Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson on June 11. The action does not affect price controls on sugar and related products nor rationing controls affecting canners, food processors and other industrial users. These users must keep record of the amount of each delivery of sugar made to them, the

name and address of the person by whom the delivery was made, and the address to which delivery was made.

Wholesalers and retailers may acquire sugar without surrender of ration evidence; but they may not accept delivery of, or have in inventory at any time, more sugar than 110 percent of their allowable inventory. This represents an across-the-board increase of 10 percent in allowable inventories, which is justified by the increased IEFC allocation.

Delivery of sugar by a wholesaler or retailer or primary distributor to an industrial user, except on surrender of proper ration evidence for the amount of the delivery, is prohibited. Ration checks received by wholesalers, retailers or primary distributors from industrial users must be kept in the suppliers' records to substantiate deliveries made.

In addition to the records already required of wholesalers and primary distributors, retailers now are required to keep a record of the name and address of the buyer, the address to which delivery was made, the date of delivery, and the amount of sugar delivered on all sales of more than 100 pounds of sugar, or of any quantity to an industrial user.

In testifying before the Senate and House Banking and Currency Committees last week, Department of Agriculture witnesses indicated there were three factors that needed to be known as a basis for terminating household rationing.

The first was the distribution of the surplus of the Cuban crop above the earlier IEFC allocations. The IEFC announced today a recommended allocation of sugar to the United States amounting to an increase of 350,000 tons of sugar, or an average of 5 pounds per person.

The second factor was the disposition of free export and any surplus local consumption sugar in Cuba, and current advice indicates that this surplus will be sold by Cuba in such a manner as to relieve other demands on the world pool.

Finally, the Department wanted to know what the export possibilities were in Java, and a representative of the Department has now had a week in Java studying sugar stocks. Information from him indicates that the 200,000 tons thought likely to be available from Java will be available for world usage.

In addition, the Department indicated that the domestic distribution figure had been low for the first two

months of the current quarter. Figures for the week ending June 7 now are available and indicate that while distribution has picked up somewhat, it is still at a level short of the allocation for this quarter.

## Congress

### Food and Drug Amendments

#### Salt

Dr. E. J. Cameron, Director of the Washington Research Laboratories, appeared before a food and drug subcommittee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on June 11 in connection with hearings on a bill (H. R. 2717) to require that all salt sold in interstate commerce for table use be iodized. Dr. Cameron pointed out to the Committee the possible undesirable effects on canned foods should iodized salt be required in their production and the possibility that the shelf life of canned foods might be drastically reduced through the use of iodized salt, since the common stabilizing ingredients used in iodizing salt are known to have a corrosive effect on metal containers.

The bill was introduced by Mrs. Frances P. Bolton of Ohio and was endorsed at the hearings by the Federal Security Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, the U. S. Public Health Service, the American Medical Association, and the American Public Health Association. Mrs. Bolton, in presenting the bill to the subcommittee, suggested that the definition of iodized salt be changed to "kitchen and table salt for seasoning" and not include salt used in the processing of foods. The U. S. Public Health Service concurred in Mrs. Bolton's recommendation that salt should be defined so as not to include salt used in processing foods.

Opposition to the measure was presented by representatives of the Salt Producers Association.

The food and drug subcommittee is under the Chairmanship of Robert Hale of Maine and includes Harris Ellsworth of Oregon, William J. Miller of Connecticut, Virgil Chapman of Texas, and Benjamin J. Rabin of New York.

#### Seizures

Hearings were held by this subcommittee on June 12 on identical bills (H. R. 3128-H. R. 3147) to amend the seizure provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The

bills were introduced at the request of the Food and Drug Administration to authorize the seizure of a commodity which has become adulterated or misbranded after shipment in interstate commerce. No opposition to the proposal was presented to the subcommittee.

C. W. Crawford, Associate Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, gave that agency's reasons for desiring enactment of legislation that will allow the seizure of commodities that have come to rest following interstate shipment. The proposal also was supported by Charles Wesley Dunn, general counsel of the Grocery Manufacturers Association and the American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association, and by Ernest W. Harrison, president of a New York food brokerage concern.

Chairman Hale announced at the opening of the hearings that no testimony would be received on H. R. 3763, a bill introduced by Representative Landis of Indiana to amend the food and drug law in a number of respects, owing to the fact that no notice had been given. It is understood that hearings will be held on this bill at a later date, however.

The Landis bill seeks to strike out a criminal provision in the Food and Drug law which makes it an offense for a manufacturer to refuse permission to the Food and Drug Administration to inspect his property; would extend to all claimants of seized food products the right to secure a court order requiring the Government to make available a true copy of the analysis and identifying marks in connection with a seizure; would amend the definition of adulterated food for the purpose of prohibiting the destruction of a product that is not unfit for food; proposes to limit the power to condemn and destroy food to instances in which there is substantial variation or substitution of constituent elements; and would remove the 90-day limit on court review of administrative orders.

#### Minimum Wages

A number of bills have been introduced recently to raise the minimum wage rate established in the Fair Labor Standards Act. Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont with Senators Tobey of New Hampshire, Ives of New York and Cooper of Kentucky as co-sponsors, introduced S. 1400 to raise the minimum wage to 65 cents an hour, and Senator Claude Pepper of Florida with 10 cosponsors introduced S. 1404 to raise the minimum wage to 65 cents an hour for the first year

following enactment, 70 cents the second year, and 75 cents thereafter. Similar bills have been introduced in the House.

Chairman Robert A. Taft of the Senate Committee on Labor, to whom the bills have been referred, is reported as favoring legislation to raise the minimum wage.

#### General Labor Legislation

Late Friday afternoon, June 6, the Senate adopted the Conference Committee recommendations for enactment of the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947 (the Taft-Hartley labor bill) by a vote of 54 to 17. The House vote on the Conference report taken on June 4 was 320 to 79. Thus both houses of Congress passed the measure with votes in excess of the two-thirds necessary to pass a law over a Presidential veto. The President has until midnight, June 20, to act upon the measure.

#### War Powers

House and Senate Judiciary subcommittees have had under consideration during the past week proposals to extend for an additional year allocation controls on tin and a number of other items in short supply and present export controls. These controls expire on June 30 unless Congress authorizes a further extension.

#### Farm Labor

The Senate Agriculture Committee has announced that it will hold hearings on June 18 on S. 1334, a companion to H. R. 3367, to establish a permanent farm labor supply program in the Department of Agriculture. The House Agriculture Committee has hearings scheduled on the subject for June 16 and 17.

#### MARKETING AGREEMENTS BILL

(Concluded from page 287)

modities be made subject to mandatory controls of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It was on this bill that representatives of the canning industry testified and opposed proposals that canning crops be included under the order sections of the law at hearings held on February 26 and 27. (See INFORMATION LETTER for March 1, page 139.)

#### Dry Bean Allocation

A supplemental export allocation of 50,000 hundred-pound bags of baby lima beans for use by the Army in occupied areas of the Pacific was announced this week by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The beans will be procured commercially by the Army.

## Statistics

### Rail and Boat Shipments of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Rail and boat shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables (exclusive of white potatoes) totaled 16,226 cars for the week ending June 7, 1947, compared with 12,897 cars for the preceding week, according to a report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Shipments for the week were 18 percent less than those for the corresponding week last year.

The following table compiled from a report of the USDA Production and Marketing Administration gives comparisons of carlot shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables:

	Week ending		
	June 7, 1947	May 31, 1947	June 8, 1946
	Carloads	Carloads	Carloads
VEGETABLES			
Beans, snap and lima..	160	197	102
Tomatoes.....	1,612	1,476	2,063
Green peas.....	37	26	36
Spinach.....	8	2	7
Others.....	5,781	5,422	6,309
FRUITS			
Citrus.....	3,744	2,938	3,963
Other.....	4,884	2,836	6,285
Total.....	16,226	12,897	18,785

### Industrial Production and Worker Employment Drop

Industrial production and production worker employment in manufacturing during April declined slightly from the March level, but remained somewhat above last year. Wholesale prices of all commodities and all foods also declined slightly from March but during April were substantially higher for the corresponding month of 1946.

The consumers price index in April continued at the March level and remained about 20 percent above last year's level. Retail prices of foods declined about 1 percent during April but were one-third higher than last year. Canned fruit and vegetable retail prices were unchanged from March but one-third higher than during April, 1946. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices were at about the same level as last month and April of last year.

The following table, showing the indices from which the above comparisons were made, was derived from indices issued by the Federal Reserve Board and the Bureau of Labor Sta-

tistics. To facilitate comparisons with the prewar period these indices were computed on the basis of the 1935-1939 average equals 100.

Index of	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
	1947	1947	1946
<b>1935-39 = 100</b>			
Industrial Production <sup>1</sup> —All..	187	190	165
Processed Fruits and Veggies..	147	150	165
Production Worker Employment—All Manf. Ind. ....	156	157	141
<b>Wholesale Prices:</b>			
All Commodities.....	183	186	137
Food.....	205	212	140
Consumers' Price Index <sup>2</sup> .....	156	156	131
Retail Prices—All foods.....	188	190	142
Canned fruits & vegetables.....	173	173	129
Fresh fruits and vegetables.....	201	199	200

<sup>1</sup>Seasonally adjusted. <sup>2</sup>Formerly Cost of Living Index.

### Retail Grocery Sales Increase 27 Percent over Last Year

April, 1947, sales of retail grocery and grocery-fresh-meat stores were estimated at \$1,786,000,000 by the Office of Business Economics of the Department of Commerce. This represents an increase of 27 percent over April, 1946, and a decrease of 1 percent from March, 1947.

Retail chain store sales, which accounted for 39 percent of the total April retail sales, were up nearly 50 percent from April, 1946. Based on the sample of stores reporting to the Bureau of the Census, April sales of independent stores were 12 percent higher than last year and down 1 percent from March, 1947.

April, 1947, sales of grocery wholesalers were estimated at \$678,000,000, an increase of 7 percent over April, 1946, but a decrease of 2 percent from March of this year. Inventories held by grocery wholesalers the end of April, based on a sample of 574 firms reporting, were 48 percent larger than on the same date last year but 4 percent smaller than the end of March.

### Sugar Deliveries Increase

Deliveries of sugar for U. S. consumption by primary distributors for the first four months, January through April, of 1947, totaled 1,877,370 tons or 10 percent more than deliveries of 1,713,611 tons during the corresponding months of 1946, according to a report of the USDA. Stocks of sugar on hand April 30, 1947, totaled 1,426,199 tons or substantially higher than the 1,081,028 tons held on the corresponding date last year.

## Raw Products

### Adverse Weather Conditions Affects Sweet Corn Plantings

Sweet corn plantings in general are from one to three weeks behind schedule because of excessive rain and cold weather during May and June as shown by a crop condition spot check made by the National Canners Association June 11 through corn canners and State canners association secretaries in the corn producing States. In some areas early plantings are in good condition though retarded by cold weather but in other areas replantings have been necessary. The report by States follows:

**Maine**—The season is two weeks late due to wet cold weather. Weather conditions the last few days have been favorable and plantings are just getting underway. If present weather continues, about 75 percent of last year's acreage will be planted.

**New York**—Only 11 to 12 percent of contracted acreage has been planted up to June 11 as compared with about 55 percent the same date last year. Normally about 60 to 65 percent of sweet corn plantings are in by June 11. Only the best drained fields have been planted but hot weather last few days has dried out fields so that farmers are plowing day and night. The fields in the low areas are still too wet to plow.

**Maryland and Delaware**—Plantings on the Eastern Shore were finished this week with an acreage reduction of 15 to 20 percent. There are some poor stands and many weedy fields due to wet weather. In Western Maryland storms caused some damage to early plantings necessitating replanting. Most of the acreage is planted but only about 80 to 85 percent of last year. Plant growth is late and backward.

**Pennsylvania**—Adverse weather caused poor stands and slow growth in early plantings but weather during past two weeks has been good. About 75 to 80 percent of contract acreage is planted and the intended acreage will be about the same as last year.

**Ohio**—Some sections of the State are still very wet and plantings will be very late. Acreage seeded was very heavy during the past few days. Plantings to date are about 60 percent of last year but only about 20 percent of normal. Germination and growth are satisfactory for late plantings.

**Indiana**—Weather conditions have been improving during the last week and about 80 to 85 percent of last year's acreage has been planted. Soil conditions are now fair for germination of seed but growth is slow.

**Illinois**—The 1947 corn planting season is about 70 percent completed as compared with a normal of 80 percent. Soil temperatures have been favorable for germination since planting started but early growth has been slow. Early plantings were damaged by cut worms and sod web worms.

**Wisconsin**—About 60 percent of proposed acreage has been planted as compared with 80 percent same date last year and the balance will probably be planted by June 18 to 20. Low wet fields which were contracted for corn will not be planted but there is ample available acreage which normally would have been seeded in grain or peas. Cold wet weather has caused seed to rot on some acreage but these fields are being replanted.

**Minnesota**—The season is about a week late but 75 to 85 percent of the acreage has been planted. Weather has been cold and dry which has not been too favorable for germination and early growth. Some of the plantings made during May are being replanted. The intended acreage will probably be planted in the near future.

**Iowa**—Corn plantings in the State are one to two weeks late but the early plantings are in good condition. Some of the plantings made two weeks ago are being replanted. Soil conditions are fair but cold weather is retarding growth.

### Condition of Snap Bean and Tomato Crops Given By BAE

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, this week issued a report on the progress of planting and condition of green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, and tomatoes grown for processing. The report gives the condition of these crops on June 1.

Since the BAE survey of green pea growing areas shows practically the same conditions as was shown in a survey made by the Association, and reported in the INFORMATION LETTER for May 24, page 255, no attempt has been made to publish the BAE findings here.

Also, the N.C.A. conducted a telegraphic survey of sweet corn canning areas on June 11 and since the material obtained in this survey is later than the data shown by BAE, the N.C.A. report is reproduced in this issue instead of the BAE findings. This report appears on this page.

The following summary as given by BAE shows the progress of planting

and condition of the snap bean and tomato crops for processing by areas.

#### Snap Beans for Processing

**Delaware, Maryland and Virginia:** Snap bean seed was planted in some fields early in May. Frequent rains prolonged the planting season into June. Some acreage was replanted because untimely frosts killed the first crop.

**Pennsylvania and New Jersey:** Very little seed was planted by June 1 in these States. The season is late.

**New York:** Almost no headway was made during May in preparing fields for snap beans. Recurring rains kept the land wet and muddy.

**Michigan and Wisconsin:** On account of the backward spring, planting may be delayed until after June 10. Most of the ground was cold and wet and clear weather is needed.

**Mississippi and Tennessee:** The crop is making good growth in western Tennessee but is backward in eastern Tennessee. In Mississippi, harvesting is in progress.

**Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma:** Growers started planting early in May and expect to continue into June. Rains have interfered and weeds are causing some trouble.

**Colorado and Utah:** Most growers expect to plant snap beans early in June. The soil is in good condition.

**Oregon and Washington:** Germination of snap bean seed was slowed by cool weather. Some insects were causing trouble but are being controlled by spraying.

**California:** Planting will continue through June and July. In some of the early fields, poles have been set for the climbing varieties of snap beans.

#### Tomatoes for Processing

**Delaware, Maryland and Virginia:** Setting tomato plants in the fields began early in May and was carried on throughout the month. On the Eastern Shore, the crop appeared to be making normal progress. In western Maryland, untimely frosts killed some of the first plants to be set out and these have been replaced.

**Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York:** Growers in New Jersey and Pennsylvania made slow headway in setting plants in the fields on account of too frequent rains. Some of the first plants to be set in the fields were killed by frosts and have been replaced. Very little headway was made in western New York in May, and most of the acreage will be planted in June.

**Ohio, Indiana and Illinois:** Tomato growers' planting efforts have been seriously handicapped. The soil is too

wet to plow and clear weather is needed if the acreage is to be set by mid-June. Many growers are planting seed direct instead of transplanting plants.

**Kentucky and Tennessee:** Plenty of tomato plants are on hand for planting in these two States but much of the ground is too wet. The season is late.

**Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma:** Rainfall early in May was quite liberal and the soil was in good condition when growers were setting out their plants near the end of the month. Some losses were caused by worms, and growers have replanted when they could get plants from the limited supply on hand. Appearance of the growing crop is now good.

**Texas:** This State expects to start canning tomatoes in June. The appearance of plants is good, except where worms have caused some losses.

**Colorado and Utah:** Growers generally finished setting out plants in May. The soil was in good condition and the crop is developing satisfactorily.

**California:** The condition of the crop is good. Plant losses were negligible and many fields have been irrigated for the first time.

#### 1947 FRUIT CROP

(Concluded from page 287)

Excerpts from the official USDA report follow:

##### Apples

The United States apple crop in commercial areas is expected to be moderately smaller than both last year and average. Early May frosts caused severe damage in the Appalachian area and the 1947 production prospect in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland is now near the record low level of two years ago. However, all other major regions have an average or larger production prospect, according to June 1 conditions.

##### Peaches

Peach production for the United States promises to be another record—the third in succession. The crop is estimated at 89,183,000 bushels compared with 86,643,000 bushels last year, 81,548,000 bushels in 1945, and 62,936,000 bushels the 10-year average.

Prospects for the 10 Southern States declined slightly during May but production for this group is still a record and estimated at 25,056,000 bushels. This is only slightly more than the previous record in 1945 of 25,005,000 bushels but 13 percent more than the large 1946 crop and 52 percent more than average. Peaches are maturing later than usual this year in all southern areas. Quality generally is expected to be good.

The Western States expect a record crop of 44,398,000 bushels which is 1 percent more than the previous record last year and 42 percent above average. Washington's production of 2,942,000 bushels exceeds the 1946 record by 9 percent. Colorado with 2,214,000 bushels expects the second largest crop of record. The California clingstone crop is estimated at 23,252,000 bushels which is slightly more than last year and 46 percent above average. Freestones are indicated at 13,793,000 bushels—slightly less than last year but 38 percent more than average.

##### Pears

Pear production is estimated at 33,753,000 bushels—only 2 percent less than the record high last year and 14 percent more than average. Prospects are good to excellent in nearly all areas of the Western, Northeastern, and South Central States. However, in many areas of the South Atlantic and North Central States, the outlook is only fair because of spring frosts and unfavorable pollination weather. Total production for the Pacific Coast States is estimated at 26,005,000 bushels—7 percent less than last year's record but 20 percent more than average. Bartletts in these three States are estimated at 19,043,000 bushels—6 percent below last year but 19 percent above average. Other varieties are indicated to total 6,962,000 bushels—9 per cent below last year but 25 percent above average.

##### Plums and Prunes

The California plum crop is forecast at 97,000 tons compared with the record large 1946 crop of 100,000 tons. The 10-year average is 71,500 tons. All districts show increases over May 1 with the greatest increase in Placer County. Shipments to June 1 were mostly Beauty's and were about 400 cars more than last season, coming mostly from the San Joaquin Valley counties.

##### Cherries

Late reports from Oregon and Washington indicate more severe damage to sweet cherries than indicated by the estimates based on June 1 conditions. It is not yet possible to make a definite estimate of the loss but the following comments give an early appraisal of the damage. In Oregon, the Hood River Valley area was damaged by heavy rains over the week end of June 8 and Milton-Freewater, the Dalles, and Western Oregon have suffered further extensive loss since June 1. In the Wenatchee and Yakima fruit areas of Washington about 15 percent of ripe cherries have split, mostly Bings and Royal Annas.

The total cherry crop of all varieties in the 12 commercial States is estimated at 199,510 tons compared with 229,620 tons in 1946 and the 1936-45 average of 159,117 tons. Sweet varieties are placed at 92,440 tons compared with the record large 1946

crop of 112,370 tons and the 1938-45 average of 83,458 tons. Sour cherry production is indicated at 107,070 tons in comparison with the record large 1946 crop of 117,250 tons and the 1938-45 average of 81,551 tons. The June 1 sour cherry forecast is more uncertain than in many years because of the lateness of the season. Full bloom did not occur until late May and early June in the important Great Lakes States.

##### Sweet Cherries

Washington expects another large crop although the set is not as heavy as first indicated, particularly Royal Annas in the Yakima Valley. The season is early with the first car moving May 28, nine days ahead of 1946. Peak movement is expected in mid-June. The Oregon crop is estimated at 15,800 tons, only 51 percent of the record 1946 production and 19 per cent below average. This 15,800 ton estimate assumes from 20 to 25 percent loss in tonnage due to rain damage around June 1. Damage was most serious in Milton-Freewater, The Dalles, and Western Oregon. The late areas of the Hood River Valley and Union County had not suffered extensive damage by the first week of June.

California production is estimated at 29,900 tons, 12 percent below last year. Harvest is about finished in many commercial areas. Idaho's crop is about a fourth below last year's record but above average. Picking started about June 1 at Emmett and Lewiston for brining and will start for fresh market about June 10. The Utah sweet cherry crop was hurt by freezes. Production is indicated about a third below 1946 and 15 percent below average.

The Michigan crop is indicated about a tenth smaller than last year on June 1, but the early June rains could result in heavy dropping and brown rot. In New York, there was considerable frost injury especially in the Hudson Valley. Brown rot is present and may limit the crop size as frequent rains have been favorable for brown rot development. The June 1 condition indicated an above average crop. The Pennsylvania and Ohio crops are indicated below average because of frost damage.

##### Sour Cherries

At Grand Traverse, Michigan's principal area blossoms started to open the last of May and pollinating weather was fairly favorable the first few days of June. For other areas, pollinating weather was generally unfavorable. June 1 conditions indicate about as large a crop in the Grand Traverse area as last year, two-thirds of 1946 in the Oceana-Mason area, half of 1946 in the Southwest, and for the State 46,400 tons which is about a fourth less than last year's record and 7 percent smaller than the 1944 crop. In New York spotty frost injury is reported in all areas but the

bloom was heavy, the set good, and a large crop is in prospect—25,600 tons which is 46 percent above average and nearly as large as the 1942 crop.

In Colorado production is indicated above last year and average although a freeze the night of May 28 caused considerable damage in the Northern Colorado area, north of Fort Collins. Cherries around Loveland were undamaged. In the commercial areas of Western Washington the crop varies from near failures in small orchards on high ground to full crops in the larger commercial areas in the Puyallup and White River Valleys. If the crop is harvested where the set is light, a tonnage about equal to last year is indicated for the State. The Oregon crop is spotted and a below average production expected. The Utah crop is indicated below last year but about 50 percent above average.

#### Apricots

The 1947 production of apricots in the three important producing States (California, Washington and Utah) is forecast at 299,500 tons, compared with the large 1946 crop of 328,700 tons and the 1936-45 average of 281,515 tons.

California apricot production is estimated at 176,000 tons, compared with 306,000 tons in 1946, and the 10-year average of 210,500 tons. Apricots, like other California fruits, are maturing early this season.

In Washington, prospective production is placed at a record high of 28,000 tons compared with the previous record last season of 27,300 tons and the 10-year average of 16,070 tons. The set of fruit in the commercial areas is, in general, uniformly good for the Moorpark or shipping variety, but somewhat scattered for the processing varieties. Harvest is expected to start the third week of June, reaching a peak after July 4.

Estimated production in Utah is 5,500 tons compared with 5,400 tons in 1946 and the average of 4,945 tons. There was a heavy drop and trees are carrying a very light set of fruit.

#### Citrus Fruits

The 1946-47 orange crop is estimated at 112.8 million boxes—53.4 million boxes of early and midseason varieties and 59.4 million boxes of Valencias. This year's crop is 12 percent larger than the 1945-46 crop and 3 percent larger than the 1944-45 crop.

The California crop of Valencias this season is estimated at 34 million boxes compared with 26.3 million last season and 38.4 million in 1944-45. Most of the California Valencias are picked in the summer and fall, but in the other States Valencias are usually about all harvested by July 1. This year Florida still has 4 million boxes of Valencias available for harvest during June and July, and small quanti-

ties of Texas and Arizona oranges will move after June 1.

Total production of grapefruit in the 1946-47 season is estimated at 61.5 million boxes, compared with 63.4 million in 1945-46 and 52.2 million in 1944-45. About 7 million boxes were available for harvest on June 1 of this year compared with about 5 million remaining on June 1 last year.

Of the 30 million boxes of Florida grapefruit estimated for this season's crop, 25.3 million boxes were harvested by June 1 and 3 million boxes are estimated as economic abandonment due to low prices. Marketings after June 1 are accordingly indicated at 1.7 million boxes compared with about 2.0 million last year. California has 2.0 million boxes of summer grapefruit this year compared with 2.1 million last year. Practically all this crop is harvested after the first of June. About 1.4 million boxes of Texas and 1.6 million boxes of Arizona grapefruit are yet to be harvested.

#### Insecticides Used in Control of European Corn Borer

The European corn borer may be profitably controlled in market sweet corn and hybrid seed corn, and under some conditions, in field corn also, by timely spraying or dusting, the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced. The Bureau recommends spraying or dusting with DDT, Rynia or a rotenone powder. The insecticide does not get on the kernels and it may be used safely on any sweet corn.

Derris or Rynia should be used at the rate of four pounds of the ground material to 100 gallons of water plus a spreading agent. DDT should be applied at the rate of one-half pound of actual DDT to 100 gallons of water plus a spreading agent. The DDT usually comes as a wettable powder containing 25 to 50 per cent of the chemical and the necessary spreader.

DDT when fed to animals, is excreted in the milk and accumulated in animal fat. It is, therefore, not recommended that treated leaves, stalks, and husks be fed to livestock. Also, if used year after year on crops in the same field, DDT accumulations in the soil may become injurious to crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and squashes used in the rotation.

The spray should be applied through nozzles delivering a solid cone, and it should be applied downward from above toward the ear and the whorl of leaves. Small portable sprayers may be used in gardens. Dusting may also be practiced. Power sprayers and dusters may be used in applying the

insecticide to commercial fields and applications by airplanes have been promising. The applications should be made when the corn borer egg masses begin to hatch, and repeated 4 times at 5-day intervals.

## Foreign Trade

#### German Currency Is Being Accepted by Some Countries

Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands are shipping foods into Germany and other parts of Central Europe, and are reported to be accepting European currencies in exchange, the freight being paid by the shippers. From the same sources, prewar, an average of 54 percent of their exportable surplus of fruits and vegetables was shipped into Germany alone.

The willingness of the Dutch and Danish shippers, particularly, to accept Reichmarks in payment is said to be due to the conviction of these traders that the United States and Great Britain will be compelled to provide for the economic recovery of Germany in spite of prevailing difficulties, otherwise all Europe will sink. Also, that Dutch traders are in a position to accept the "soft" currencies of Central Europe because of contiguity, constant trading and rendering of reciprocal services and the ability of the Dutch to pay for services rendered them in the currencies originally accepted for their goods.

Certain American canners who have been contemplating willingness to exchange goods with Europe on a barter basis and have even discussed the possibility of accepting "soft" currencies in payment are being warned by their international bankers that German and other national currencies may be devalued in the meantime, and that the risks involved are incalculable at this stage.

#### Name Foreign Trade Assistant

Secretary of Commerce W. Averell Harriman has announced the appointment of David K. E. Bruce, of Brookneal, Va., as Assistant to the Secretary. Mr. Bruce will be responsible to Secretary Harriman and Under Secretary William C. Foster for the management of some of the Department's activities in international trade and domestic commerce.

## Sweden Readjusts Foreign Exchange Restrictions

The Swedish Government is adopting additional restrictive measures to conserve that country's foreign exchange. One important step contemplated by the Swedish Minister of Finance is to ask Parliament for full power for the State Bank to requisition all private Swedish assets in foreign currencies. Holders of such securities would be paid in Swedish crowns at the present rate of exchange.

Sweden is curtailing exports to any and all countries that are unable to pay in gold, United States dollars, Swiss francs or in merchandise urgently needed for domestic account.

U. S. State Department officials have expressed the hope that Sweden would see fit to tighten economic reins internally, in order to establish a solid basis for broader external trading. The Swedish Government seems to be taking definite action along such constructive lines. State Department authorities say, in that it has introduced measures to reduce installment buying and fiduciary bank loans, as part of the general plan to strengthen Sweden's hard currency situation. The State Bank will likely be empowered to redeem in Swedish crowns all foreign exchange holdings by Swedish subjects; also to limit the amount of foreign exchange to Swedes going abroad.

Limitations are to be imposed upon the domestic consumption of a number of lines of export goods, notably lumber and iron, to boost exportation, as has already been done with woodpulp and paper products generally.

The Swedish delegation now in Washington is still conferring with State Department officials on the terms of a bilateral trade agreement with Sweden. Up to date there has been no specified classification of items on which the import ban is to be tightened.

## To Resume Trade with Japan

The Office of International Trade of the U. S. Commerce Department shortly will issue a release setting forth procedures under which commercial business may be resumed with Japan. The directive will enumerate qualifications and exceptions which require careful study by any American business firm contemplating the resumption of former connections or the inauguration of new enterprise.

No industrial representatives may

visit Japan in civil capacity before August 15, 1947, but it is anticipated that insurance, banking, and shipping firms may make application for immediate entry into Japanese territory.

The purpose of these exceptions is that such facilities may be ready to service international industrial and export and import operations by the time the latter are initiated.

## Promotion

### Recipe Service Increasing

The Association's Home Economics Division reports an increase in the use of its recipe and menu service by members. The major portion of the requests for special recipes have been for use on new canned food labels.

This service, started when the Service Kitchen was established, provides members of the Association with recipes and menus developed by an experienced dietitian.

Members requesting recipes are required to furnish samples of the canned or glassed product so that the results are adapted for the best use of that specific food. The requests for recipes are scheduled in the order they are received. After recipes have been developed, the foods, prepared by Margaret Butler, are taste-tested before the recipes are sent out.

### Magazine Uses N.C.A. Recipes

*Parents' Magazine* has started a section entitled "More Time for Mothers" and it is made up of "Quickies" which are recipes from nationally known home economists.

In the June issue the canning industry is represented in the section. Katherine R. Smith, Director of the Association's Home Economics Division, is one of the "experts" contributing quick cooking tips.

### Home Food Preservation Week

The Department of Agriculture has announced the designation of the week June 22 through June 28 as Home Food Preservation Week.

### Forthcoming Meetings

June 16-17—Maine Canners Association, Summer Meeting, Lakewood, Maine.

June 20—National Pickle Packers Association, Mid-year Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago, Ill.

June 22-26—National Association Retail Grocers, Annual Convention, San Francisco, Calif.

June 23-July 3—Ozark Canners Association, Technicians School, Fayetteville, Ark.

June 23-24—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Mid-year Meeting, Palace Hotel, San Francisco, Calif.

July 9-18—Indiana Canners Association, Mold Count School, Horticulture Department, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

July 23-August 1—Association of New York State Canners Inc., Mold Count School, Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

November 6-7—Ozark Canners Association, Fall Meeting, Connor Hotel, Joplin, Mo.

November 10-12—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 39th Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N. Y.

November 20-21—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Convention, Savery Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa.

November 20-21—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Fall Convention, Traymore Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 13-17—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 16-17—National Pickle Packers Association, Winter Meeting, New York, N. Y.

January 18-23—National Canners Association, Annual Convention (hotel to be announced), Atlantic City, N. J.

January 18-23—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Exhibit, Convention Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

January 19—National-American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.

March 15-18—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Convention, Chicago, Ill.

### USDA Meat Production Report

Meat production under Federal inspection for the week ended June 7 totaled 317 million pounds, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This production was 19 percent above the 267 million pounds produced during the preceding week, during which the Memorial Day holiday occurred, and 46 percent above the 217 million pounds recorded last year.

## Fisheries

### Fisheries Research Institute at University of Washington

The University of Washington at Seattle recently established a Fisheries Research Institute with Dr. W. F. Thompson as director. The new institute provides the framework through which research of the fishing industry of Oregon, Washington, and Alaska may be carried on under the University's direction and financed by the various branches of the industry.

The nucleus of the research work now being carried on by the Fisheries Research Institute consists of several projects on the biological studies of the salmon runs in Alaska. These studies are now being financed by the Bristol Bay and Southeastern Alaska salmon canners. It is anticipated that further research projects and fellowships may be started by the other branches of the fishing industry and that the work of the Fisheries Institute may be expanded to take care of these studies.

Dr. Thompson, who resigned as director of the University of Washington School of Fisheries to be the head of the new Fisheries Institute, has been succeeded in the School of Fisheries by Dr. Wilbert M. Chapman, formerly Curator of Fisheries at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

## Instruction

### Mold Count Schools to Be Held at Three Locations

Plans have been completed for conducting Howard mold count schools at three different locations this year. The first, which is being sponsored by the Ozark Canners Association, will be a school for Ozark and Texas canners at Fayetteville, Ark., from June 30 to July 3. This mold count school will be preceded by a week (June 23 to July 3) of instruction in the examination of canned spinach.

The second school will be sponsored by the Indiana Canners Association. This school will be held from July 9 to 18, at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

The third mold count school to be held this summer will be sponsored by

the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., and conducted from July 23 to August 1 at the Geneva Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, N. Y.

The instruction at all of the above schools will be under the supervision of Howard Smith of the Washington research laboratory, National Canners Association, with the assistance of representatives of the research departments of can companies.

### Packaging Is Big Business

Packaging in the United States, although not commonly considered a trade or industry, has become a \$5,000,000,000 business covering design, testing, production, shipping and merchandising, the Department of Commerce has announced. Packaging calls for a wide variety of materials including glass, tin, cellophane, paper, folding boxboard and steel, and much attention has been given by interested groups to obtaining suitable containers, as they often sway the consumer's decision in selecting the article offered for sale, the Department stated.

## Personnel

### Sherman Is Named Secretary of N. Y. State Association

William H. Sherman, thirty-four, for the past two and a half years labor consultant of the Association of New York State Canners, Inc., has been elected secretary of that association, effective immediately. He succeeds Arthur E. Nash, who resigned June 1 to accept a position with the Comstock Canning Corporation in Newark, N. Y. (See INFORMATION LETTER, May 10.)

Mr. Sherman is a graduate of Cornell University and had done advanced work there previous to joining the New York Association. He served in the War Food Administration as Director of Training and Safety for the Northeastern Division of the United States, and prior to that taught high school vocational agriculture at Albion, N. Y., for eight years.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
<b>Raw Products</b>	
Copies of paper on soil fertility are available .....	287
1947 fruit crop to be smaller .....	287
Adverse weather conditions affect sweet corn plantings .....	290
Condition of snap bean and tomato crops given by BAE .....	290
Insecticides used in control of European corn borer .....	292
<b>Legislation</b>	
Canning crops not included in marketing agreements bill .....	287
Congress .....	288
<b>Supplies</b>	
Sugar rationing for household consumers discontinued .....	287
Dry bean allocation .....	289
Packaging is big business .....	294
<b>Statistics</b>	
Rail and boat shipments of fresh fruit and vegetables .....	289
Industrial production and worker employment drop .....	289
Retail grocery sales increase 27 percent over last year .....	289
<b>Foreign Trade</b>	
German currency is being accepted by some countries .....	292
Name foreign trade assistant .....	292
Sweden readjusts foreign exchange restrictions .....	293
To resume trade with Japan .....	293
<b>Canned Food Promotion</b>	
Recipe service increasing .....	293
Magazine uses N.C.A. recipes .....	293
Home Food Preservation Week .....	293
<b>Forthcoming Meetings</b>	293
<b>Fisheries</b>	
Fisheries research institute at University of Washington .....	294
<b>Instruction</b>	
Mold count schools to be held at three locations .....	294
<b>Personnel</b>	
Sherman is named secretary of N. Y. State Association .....	294